

THE MAUI NEWS

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JOSEPH H. GRAY

EDITOR

FRIDAY

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ITS END APPROACHES

'Neath the feet of H. C. L. the earth is crumbling away and rocks and pebbles as they fall tell of the approaching doom. The foundation has been undermined and is crumbling. Materially lower prices will be welcomed by the consumer within the next six months, producers are beginning to admit.

For weeks there have been signs of a weakening in the market for commodities and those signs have grown daily more frequent. Then came Henry Ford with the announcement of a return to pre-war prices for the output of his great plant. Next mail order houses announced cuts of from 10 to 30 percent. Wheat declined and corn followed in its footsteps along the downward trail. Shoe manufacturers, cotton millers, wool weavers all are marking time and ready to about face and enter upon the retreat. Lumber is marked down 20 percent on the mainland.

With the currency of the world depreciated as compared to the American dollar foreign buyers found prices for the American goods they need prohibitive. Some things they must buy but where possible they are out of the market as bidders.

Next came the announcement of the federal reserve banks that they would not make loans to enable owners of goods and materials to hold them and thus artificially sustain the top heavy prices. Owners of goods must dispose of them to liquidate their indebtedness. With the support of banking interests withdrawn would be profiteers must yield and the law of supply and demand will come back. No longer will the producer say "you must pay my price or go without." The merchant and the consumer through him will bid for what they want and will set a limit to their bids. If foreign trade is not to be had, then must the producer seek his market at home.

Traveling salesmen say most merchants are "buying from hand to mouth." It has been a hard situation for the merchants who must carry sufficient stock to hold their customers, but they are attempting little more. They cannot be expected to make sweeping reductions until they have somewhat cleared their stocks. Then they will be glad to go back to normal selling methods.

Profiteers are sure to suffer and it is to be regretted that some who cannot be classed under that ugly word will suffer also, but often the innocent fall with the guilty. The public has been held up and its pockets rifled for months past. It can hardly be expected to weep or to sympathize if the cat's paws are scorched.

AMENDE HONORABLE

On two occasions within the past two months injustice has been done Judge L. L. Burr in the news columns of this paper. The first occasion was in the issue of August 20 under the head of "Judge Burr demands that McMahon resign." In that article the version of M. Mahon was given and Judge Burr, who was absent on the Coast, had no opportunity to present his.

In that article it was said: "McMahon says that the reason of Burr's action is that he (McMahon) refused to alter the transcript of the Judge's hour long pronouncement—as made from the stenographic notes taken in the court room."

Legal authorities show that a judge has the right to amend a judgment in order to attain the ends of justice and make it conform to the facts and truth in the case. That was what Judge Burr demanded and the editor is convinced he was within his rights.

In the same article through the omission of a line in the printed copy of a typewritten letter from Judge Burr to McMahon the former was put in a wrong light since the letter as printed did not show that Judge Burr had given to McMahon an indefinite time in which to have forwarded his resignation to take effect, not later than September 1, the letter being dated June 3. The article was misleading and should not have been published in the form it was.

In last week's issue of Maui News under the head of "McMahon appears for work and is told to get out of court," the editor was misinformed as to where the incident occurred. It was in the Judge's office and not in the court room. Even so the article was not intended in any way to reflect upon the dignity of the court.

The editorial policy of the Maui News is to publish in its news columns straight, uncolored facts and reports of news as they come to or are seen by the editor.

The Maui News seeks to avoid injustice to any one but it is human to err and if at any time any one believes an article as published has done him or her injustice or wrong and will take the matter up with the editor, who will investigate and, if he finds that such be the case, then this paper will gladly endeavor to put the matter right before its readers as it has done in this instance.

TOLL CHARGES PERMITTED

Maui's almost unanimous objection to the introduction of toll charges by the telephone company have been disregarded by the utilities board and the Maui Telephone Company is granted permission to put its proposal into effect for a trial of six months. The news is received with anything but satisfaction but crying will not put the milk back in the pail, it's spilt, tears and plaints will avail naught. Maui must accept the ruling with such good grace as it may be able to muster.

It is as an experiment the telephone company allowed to put its plan in operation for six months and the fair thing to do is to bide the time and see whether the plan works out as the telephone company thinks it will, to give it a fair trial.

However, this paper believes the plan doomed to failure from the outset as based on wrong principles. It fears that subscribers will be lost as a result and the value of the company to its subscribers thereby decreased with the higher charges. If the plan works otherwise Maui News will admit it has been wrong. Otherwise it will again advance its solution of a charge for a minimum number of messages and an additional charge for all messages over the minimum whether in town or outside, except perhaps as to Hana. In that way each phone user would pay for the service he secured, the larger users paying the larger revenue to the company.

Before six months are over it can be determined whether such a plan is necessary and meantime the company is entitled to its chance.

Next week is fire prevention and clean up week. There is not a town or settlement on Maui where there is no need of its observance. Organization and system are to be undertaken and with proper cooperation and response from the citizenry splendid results should be attained.

Prof. Frederick A. G. Muir has brought to the Islands another parasite to combat the leaf hopper pest. The new ally of the planter sucks the eggs laid by the hopper, it is said. Next we want a parasite for the drought.

Little drops of water to wash off many grains of sand make—well never mind what they make a man do.

Will Sabin in his "Look Before You Laugh Column" of The Advertiser recently was inclined to be a trifle hypercritical when he remarked that some one on Maui News appears to think the United States is a foreign country and picked up the allusion to H. L. Low, recently here representing Giltner Brothers, as "only foreign salesman from the United States, now on Maui."

Not so William, the word "foreign" describes "salesman" to which it was placed in close adjunctivity and not "United States" nor "Maui" from which its position in the sentence was discreetly remote. Mr. Low is a "foreign salesman" in the sense in that he covers foreign territory such as Canada, Mexico, Cuba and other countries but at the same time his territory includes Hawaii. Practice the precept at the head of your "colyum" Brer Sabin and "Look Before You Laugh."

Supervisor Fleming says Wailuku home owners ought to sacrifice their lawns if necessary that the town may have an adequate water supply. He does not advocate complete sacrifice but thinks one watering a day, in the morning, should suffice. "Look at the cane fields," he says.

Another boost in express rates has been granted. Soon they will be so high the public will have to use the parcels post.

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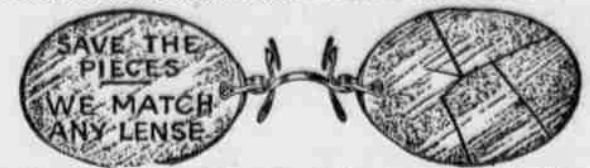
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